1 Adult Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Service System Work Group

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Issue of Variability Across County Plans

2 Major Issue or Question

Develop and implement a regularly updated means of identifying the service arrays provided by counties, including the relative ranges of the service arrays and the relative amounts of services provided within the arrays. Use this information as a component of funding distribution formulas in order to improve the relative equity of the services provided in the state.

3 My Question

- If we are just addressing funding formulas, caps, and balance issues are we really getting to longer-term or "big picture" challenges and potential solutions.
- If we do have these immediate funding issues that impact services (formulas, caps, balances) how do we keep a broader perspective "on the table"?

4 County Mgmt Plans (My understanding)

- All counties must have
- Define single point of entry (CPC)
- Describes how persons with disabilities receive appropriate services and supports
- Cost effective services limitations of federal, state and county resources (maximum flexibility)
- Guided by principles of choice, empowerment and community.

5 My Nagging Questions!

- What is the process for determining and monitoring appropriateness of programs and services?
- What are the issues of "equal access" for *all* lowa citizens for programs and services regardless of where they reside?
- · How does factor of county resources fit into this picture?

6 A Beginning Look

- Reviewed three selected county plans
- A layperson's view of what appears to be programs and services as reflected in these plans
- Used plans as posted on DHS Website

7 County "A"

- Posted plan is one page in length and dated July 1, 2006-June 30, 2007
- Represents three counties
- Goals primarily relate to work with schools, transition from school to community.
- General descriptions of stakeholder involvement ("Our . . . Committee meets and we have consumers involved . . .) and quality assurance (Results of survey " . . . No concerns and consumers were happy with services and their workers . . .)

8 County B

(Big County!)

- 50 plus pages, FY 07-09, Progress report 11/08
- Six goal areas identified (Strong focus on unmet needs)
- Specific performance indicators across seven domains
- Quality Assurance (percentage comparisons across years in movement of persons across continuum of services and living arrangements, level of employment)

9 County C

(Pop of 14,000)

- 20 page document, progress update from 2006 Strategic Action Plan
- Six goals reviewed, individual stories of persons served are woven into report
- Specific Impact Summary addressing consumer satisfaction, provider satisfaction, patterns of service utilization, responsiveness to consumer needs and desires, consumer appeals, cost effectiveness

10 Limitations

- Far from a random selection process
- · Do plans necessarily capture what is really going on?

- What is the ongoing process for coaching the development of county plans and implementation?
- Again how do we define or what should be our aspiration for "equal access"?

11 Primary Reference

Fixsen, Naomm, Blasé, Friedman & Wallace (2005) "Implementation Research"

12 Degrees of Implementation

- Paper Implementation
- Process Implementation
- Performance Implementation

Successful Implementation (Fixson, et al., 2005)

- Practitioners received coordinated training, coaching and frequent performance assessment
- Organizations provide infrastructure for training, supervision, process and outcome evaluations
- Communities and consumers fully involved in selection and evaluation of programs
- State and federal funding policies create hospitable environment for implementation and program operations (vi)

14 Equal Access"

- What is available in each community/county (planning, services, performance)?
- What can be available on a regional (four/five sites) basis?
 Possible redirection of MHIs "Beyond Beds")
- What can only be available on a statewide basis? (Telemedicine, U of I, etc.)

15 Thank You For Your Time csmith@iastate.edu